THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Setting up of national universities

964. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Knowledge Commission has recently recommended the setting up of 30 more national universities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has since examined the recommendations of the Commission and proposes to set up new universities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when such national universities are likely to be set up and total investment to be made therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) In its Report to the Nation (2006), the National Knowledge Commission (NKC) recommended, as a long term objective, creation of up to 50 National Universities that can provide education of the highest standard, with at least 10 such Universities, to begin with, in the next 3 years.

No decision has been taken on the recommendations made by NKC. However, it has been proposed to set up 16 Central Universities, one in each of the uncovered States, and 14 new Central universities aimed at world class standard.

Universities and colleges

965. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR RUPANI:
SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Universities and colleges affiliated to respective universities, working as on 31st December, 2007, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that 24 per cent of urban youth and only nine per cent of rural youth are enrolled in higher education;

(c) whether it is also a fact that out of nearly 20,676 colleges in our country, only 100 colleges are put in Potential for Excellence by the UGC and only 3,411 have been graded by NAAC; and

(d) whether the NASCOM observation that 75 per cent of fresh engineering graduates are not qualified and equipped for the job requirements of employers, is correct?